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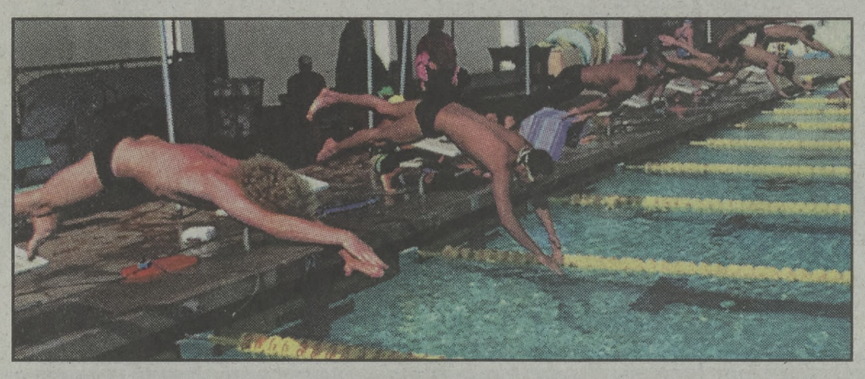
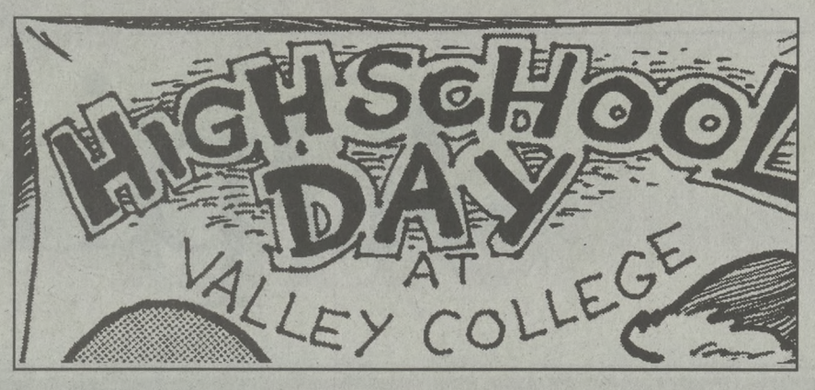


Swim meet

see page 8



High school day

see page 2

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The Valley Star

VOLUME 57, ISSUE NO. 5 | APRIL 17, 2002 | LOS ANGELES VALLEY COLLEGE

Survivor Recalls Her Tragic Story

BY BEN JAURON
STAR REPORTER

A fourteen year-old girl looks to the skies and sees a German combat aircraft flying overhead with a lone figure parachuting towards the Earth. "My God," the frightened child thinks, "he's coming to take me. He's coming to take me back to Germany."

The time, 10 minutes after 11 p.m. on May 10, 1941. The place was Floor's Farm, Eaglesham, near Glasgow, Scotland. The man, Rudolph Hess, Deputy Fuhrer of the Third Reich. The girl, Holocaust survivor Vera Landecker.

Hess was looking for the Duke of Hamilton in nearby Dungavel Castle so that he could discuss terms of peace between England and Germany. Instead he found the muzzle of ploughman David MacLean's double-barreled shotgun and permanent accommodations in Spandau Prison. Young Vera was looking to escape her home in Breslau, within Nazi-occupied Germany, and Hitler's terror regime. She was a great deal more successful in accomplishing her goals than Hess was.

"I thought for sure that Hess had come to Scotland just to get me," said Landecker. "It scared me." She was quite thankful that Hitler's right-hand man had other intentions in mind.

World War II survivor Vera Landecker told her eyewitness account of the Kindertransport to a standing room only audience in Monarch Hall last week. The activities began with brief speeches by Ezra Laniado, student president of Hillel, a Jewish organization on campus, Nomi Gordon and Rick Lupert, directors of the organization at Valley and Pierce colleges, as well as Valley President Tyree Wieder.

"We are here to mourn the death of six million, as we embrace our own life," said Laniado. He then went on to emphasize that April is Jewish Awareness Month and Monday was Yom Hashoah, the Jewish day of Holocaust remembrance.

The audience of more than 250 watched a short film titled: "Into the Arms of Strangers: Stories of the Kindertransport." The movie was an abridged version of the academy award-winning documentary about several Jewish children who were granted amnesty by the British government beginning in the late 1930s, after being refused refuge in the United States and several other countries. The film relayed personal accounts of the survivors that took refuge in Britain.

The keynote speaker, who was in tears and having trouble speaking when she took the podium—remained that way throughout her discourse. Landecker, now a 76 year-old retired nurse and department store personnel manager in Los Angeles, spoke of her experiences before and after her emigration to the British Isles.

"I'll never forget, November of 1938," she said. "I was 12 years old and the Gestapo came to every city and searched houses, cellars, attics... if they hadn't found my father they would have sent my mother, my sister and me to Buchenwald." Landecker was most likely referring to the "Kristallnacht" of Nov. 9, 1938—the "night of broken glass" when the Nazis began their persecution of Jews within their empire in earnest.

Landecker went on to say how she was fortunate enough to have blonde hair with pigtails when she was a little girl and didn't fit the stereotypical physical image of a Jew that most pro-Hitler Germans held. This was very advantageous, and she talked about how her fami-

See **'HOLOCAUST'** on p. 5

STAR PHOTO/LISA TOBIN

Holocaust victim and survivor, Vera Landecker, recently recounts her story of surviving German persecution during World War II to a group of students at Monarch Hall.

Valley Students Fighting for Cal WORKS Funds

BY SERENA DANIELS
STAR REPORTER

Gov. Gray Davis may try to cut much needed money out of the Cal WORKS program, but he's not doing so without a fight. On April 30 students from community colleges throughout California will be in Sacramento in hopes of rallying support to maintain the current $9 million Cal WORKS budget.

Announcement of the cutbacks to Cal WORKS were made by Davis while addressing the state's budget in January. Since then he has caused a tremendous reaction from recipients of that program who would not otherwise be able to attend school.

"For many of these students, many of them are single mothers," said Lynne Brower, director for Cal WORKS and GAIN. "This is just another thing to worry about on top of other constant struggles that these people have to deal with every day."

Cal WORKS is a program that was founded to assist single mothers in their pursuit to economic independence. The program currently offers eligible students counseling, assistance for books, job training and placement, and childcare, which basically gives these students a chance at advancing themselves in the workforce and earning their degrees.

But last winter, Davis proposed to make cuts that will make it hard for Cal WORKS to function even on the most basic level. He went on to say that the program is another welfare-to-work program and that the county should take over.

"He [Davis] just doesn't make the distinction that this is not welfare program, it's an education program for people who happen to be on welfare," said Brower.

Despite current obstacles, students are not willing to give up. Between two and three hundred students at Valley College alone have written letters to Congress stating their cases and explaining how Cal WORKS has made an impact in their lives. And those letters alone have made a huge difference in the way lobbyists are looking at the situation.

"We're planning to lobby in Sacramento," said ASU president Francesca Pagnotta. ASU, along with the Cal WORKS office, is doing its part in informing others on campus by sending out postcards, visiting classes and posting flyers around the school. Those interested in attending the rally in Sacramento should go the Cal WORKS office in bungalow 53, call Lynne Brower at (818)947-2974, or ask Pagnotta in the student services building for details.

A Day to Remember at the Museum of Tolerance

First Person: Michelle Fogel

Yom Ha'shoah, Day of Remembrance, was celebrated this past Tuesday for all the men, women, and children whose life's were cut short during the Holocaust.

To better understand what it meant to live through such atrocities, I visited the Museum of Tolerance, a Simon Wiesenthal Center Museum, in Los Angeles. The Museum of Tolerance was honoring Nicholas Winton, now 92 years of age, for being "a righteous gentile". Outside the Center I listened in as Rabbi Marvin Hier, dean and founder of the Simon Wiesenthal Center, speak in a stern voice, "There can be no surer prescription of guaranteeing the destruction of mankind then to choose such a path." As I entered the Museum I found myself enclosed by stairways leading to different events from the Holocaust. I gathered with others into a room and took a seat. Matej Minec, a producer/director, gave us an introduction before showing his documentary film based upon the struggles Nicolas Winton, a 29 year old English Stockbroker, went through in his incredible journey. This film had rare footage and interviews with those children he had saved. At the end of the film he explained how he managed to save 669 Czechoslovakian children from Nazi persecution. As he tried to fight the tears back, he spoke of how he transported those children to Prague. It is unfortunate that almost none of the parents of those children transported survived. I have come once before to this Museum of Tolerance and I have seen movies such as Schindler's, List but I must admit that hearing the brutality from a survivor can really shake up a person into the arms of reality. It's

See **'MUSEUM'** on p. 3

540 Waves Tuition Fee for Non-Residents

BY OLIVER CACANANTA
STAR REPORTER

This spring, a new program began to serve needy students in the California State and community college systems.

Governor Davies signed Assembly Bill 540 into law last October to waive the nonresident tuition fee for students who can demonstrate school attendance in California.

"Lots of students have taken advantage of this program," said Sylvia Rodriguez, Dean of Admissions and Records at Valley. "More than 200 have already applied."

To qualify, a student must have attended a California high school for three or more years and graduated high school, or passed equivalency (GED), in the state. Students who meet these two requirements are exempt from paying nonresident tuition, regardless of citizenship and immigration status.

For undocumented immigrants, there is one more step in the process: they are required to sign an affidavit stating that they have applied for legalization status with INS.

This is where the tricky aspects of AB540 come in.

The law expects institutions to handle affidavits with confidentiality. They are not required to follow up on a student's future eligibility or to verify their immigration status.

"All we need, and all we are responsible for, is to certify the student by signing the affidavit," said Yasmin delaHoussaye, Vice President of Student Affairs. "We trust that by signing their name that they are being honest with the school. I don't really know what happens beyond that, but of course if a student have been in this country since he was in first grade, I don't think it would be such a big deal with INS."

It is unclear what the consequences are and legal rights for a student to declare his documentation status with INS in light of AB540. The justice department may level actions against him or his family. That would deter the student from applying to the program in the first place.

See **'AB540'** on p. 5

editorial

A Message of Hope, a Mission of Peace

The Palestinians and Israelis have been enemies for years. Both claim to have historic rights to the same land in the Middle East region of Asia. Israelis have had their own country since 1948. Palestinians want their own country as well. This deep lingering hatred over this land has grown more deadly over the past year and a half, and past attempts to subdue the violence have failed. Now the Bush administration has a plan, but is it the right one?

During the Clinton administration the U.S. failed to bring peace to the Middle East because they did not seek help from neighboring Arab nations. Now, however, President Bush has sent Secretary of State Colin L. Powell to meet with the leaders of Morocco, Saudi Arabia, Jordan and Egypt. The idea is to influence the Arab nations in condemning the attacks made by the Israelis and Palestinians. Is this a good strategy?

Powell's trip has raised concerns among many Arab states. The king of Morocco has questioned Powell's negotiation schedule, asking him why he didn't go to Jerusalem first. If he did he could put immediate pressure on Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon to end their occupation of the West Bank cities where many have died in recent weeks. Powell's response was that the he wanted to consult with the other Arab and European nations before he heads there.

"Immediate action must be taken to ensure that peace is maintained."

Powell's refusal to negotiate directly with the Israelies has allowed for more violent conflict to take place on the Palestinian territories in the West Bank, a retaliation that began almost two weeks ago when a suicide bombing killed two dozen Israeli's during a Passover dinner. Sharon has made it clear that he will not withdraw Israel's troops, but will more than likely do so once Powell decides to arrive.

The conflict between the Palestinians and Israelis has frustrated many around the Arab nations. Jordan and Egypt, who broke their ties with the Palestinians and gave diplomatic recognition to Israel, are now questioning their decision.

This problem is only getting more difficult to resolve and more and more people are dying each day. Immediate action must be taken to ensure that peace is maintained. Washington must find a way to force Israel to stop its military attacks and withdraw from the West Bank. The Arab nations must do their part as well to pressure Palestinian Authority leader Yasser Arafat from condoning terrorist attacks on Israeli citizens.

Collin Powell must change his schedule to include a meeting with Yasser Arafat; his refusal to do so will only infuriate Palestinians and cause more bloodshed. The first step in securing safety between these two hostile nations is to recognize them both equally.

The United States must double its effort to ensure that what happened to Clinton does not happen this time.

The Missing Piece of the Peace Puzzle

A Place in the World For Everyone

BY CAMILLE BOURQUE

What about the content of my character? Last week a black co-worker told me that it is harder for black people to be promoted in today's world. She said that in the United States, people don't like taking orders from blacks. She said that white people will always have it easier. Oh, yeah she's my supervisor.

When will we recognize the dream of racial equality is wide awake? When this nation had to send a representative exactly halfway around the world to Pakistan to negotiate the most delicate dipolmatic balancing act of the new century, it sent Colin Powell. Does this sound like the actions of a country distrustful of blacks? The person repeatedly singled out as closest to the president's ear, the one he trusts implicitly at the highest levels of national security is Condoleeza Rice. How did a black woman attain so high a post in a racist country?

Is it possible the leader of the free world recognized the value of her obviously razor sharp mind and gave little matter to the melanin content of her skin? Clarence Thomas, a man of impeccable intellectual clarity who credits his ascension to the Supreme Court to a lifetime of hard work, has weathered many a storm from his political enemies about his character as a Playboy subscriber. His qualifications were never in question because he is black.

Even if you don't want to concede that the playing field is even, please admit that the rainwater is not exactly cascading to lower ground. As Dennis Prager reminds us, stop thinking of this country only as one whose history includes tens of thousands of people fighting to retain slavery, and remember that tens of thousands of people died to end it. Maybe it's not immaterial that a white president led that crusade. Would Marion Barry have the normal fortitude to pull that off? Let's be honest, probably not. Clarence Thomas? I'd wager yes. If two men of different color can be the same? Believe me, when I say that I aspire to emulate Condoleeza rice, not Tonya Harding.

Let's align ourselves together by our shared morality and our shared intellectual pursuits, not our color. Let's redeposit the check that was previous returned "insufficient funds." I'll be it pays back this time, if you're willing to look at the passbook.

The ValleyStar

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CampusView

What should the U.S. do to stop the violence between Israel and Palestine?

BY SKYLAR LENOX
STAR REPORTER

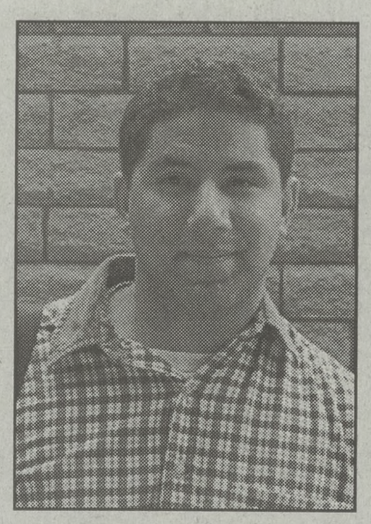
STAR PHOTOS/SKYLAR LENOX

"That's a really hard question and if I knew the answer for that I would get the Nobel Peace Prize."

Karatet Torossian

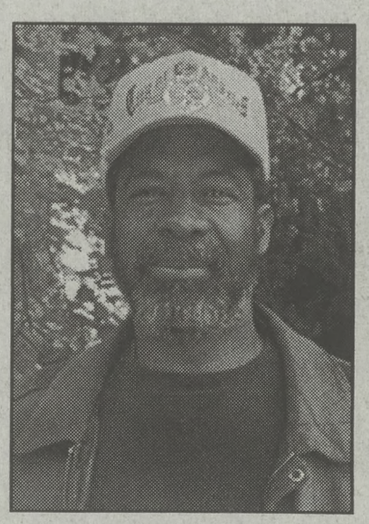
"I think they should help give the land back to Palastine because we all desearve something."

Elizabeth Shapteri



"I think the U.S. should leave it alone. They've been fighting since biblical days and I doubt anyone really remembers what they're fighting about. Its not our bussiness."

Carson Samora



"The only thing I can suggest since this is such a difficult question is that hope for the best and pray that they can come to conclusions. It is in G-ds hands."

Tyron Cain

Write a letter to the editor
StareditorsLAVC@hotmail.com
Please include your name and telephone number
Letter may be edited. Deadline: Friday 4:30 p.m.

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www.lavalleystar.com

Valley Life

CAMPUS SCENE

BY SKYLAR LENOX

• Career/ Transfer Center
Career transfer center is open to all Valley College students wishing to either transfer to a four year college or change their career. Hours: Mon. and Tue. 9 a.m.-7 p.m., Wed. and Thur. 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Friday 9 a.m.-1 p.m. in administration 126. For more information call (818) 947-2646

• The Writing Center
Free tutoring for LAVC students. Humanities 100 and 102, for more information call (818) 9472810

• No More Tears, Century, The Armenian Genocide,
Mon April 22, 11 p.m. Monarch Hall

• [illegible]
[illegible]rs, April 18, 11:30 a.m.
Music Recital Hall

• District Dance Consortium
Thurs. April 18, 12 p.m., Main Stage

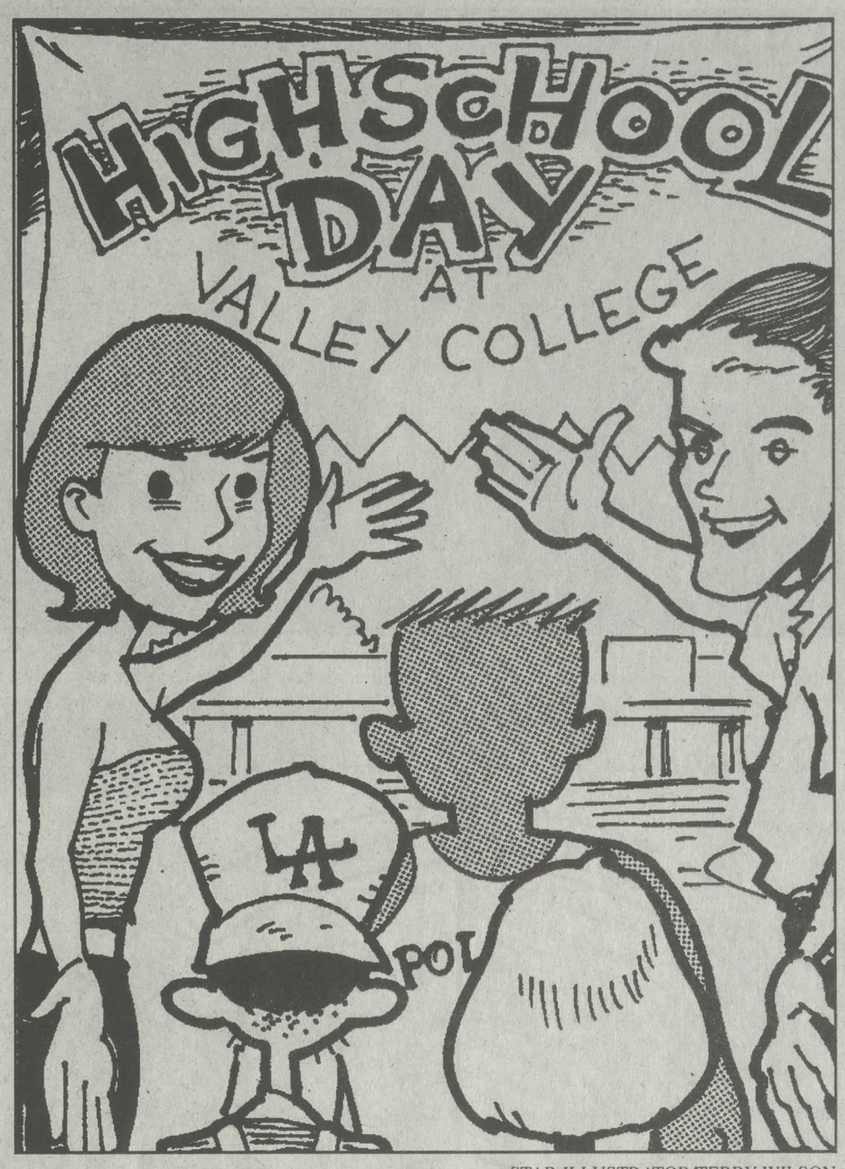
• Health Fair Expo
Thurs., April 18, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. Monarch Hall & Other Venues

• UCLA Day
Tue. April 23, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Monarch Hall & Other Venues

• LAVC Jazz Band, Woody James Conductor
Thurs., April 25, [illegible]
Music Room 112

• LAVC Philharmonic Choir, Jennifer Kelly Conductor
Sun. April 28, 8 p.m.
Main Stage

STAR PHOTO/JORGE GALLEGOS



STAR ILLUSTRATOR/TERRY WILSON

FIRST PERSON:KATHY ARELLANO

Beginning of a Nightmare

The first time I noticed our daughter was neglecting Vincent was shortly after she and Vincent moved in with us. She left him in my care while she visited friends. I wanted to give him his bottle but could not find a clean one, so I went into their shared bedroom to see if she had taken them in there. What I found were more than a half dozen baby bottles in his crib with soured formula in them. I took them out, emptied the nauseating sourness into the sink, then washed and sterilized them. I had a talk with her when she came home and suggested that she should empty and rinse the bottles right after feeding time. She was letting soiled disposable diapers pile up in the trashcan in her room. Even with her bedroom door closed, the stinging odor of old urine permeated the house. This scenario became the norm, until I gave up and just started collecting and washing the bottles myself, washing Vincent's clothing and emptying her trash. Our daughter's frequent visits with friends were a time of fear and anxiety for my husband and me. She would get up at noon, leave with Vincent, and come home after midnight. We found out later that she been hanging out in the park with old drug friends. The unsanitary conditions surrounding Vincent continued, despite my best efforts to reason with my daughter and take care of things myself. He started to have frequent colds and other respiratory problems. We finally had to ask her to leave and helped her rent a tiny unit. Little did my husband and I know that this was just the beginning of a nightmare for my grandson and for us.

"His clothing was always dirty and smelled rancid- a sour mix of body odors, urine, greasy food, cigarette smoke, beer, odor, dirt, and who knows what else."

Nine Years of Hell

Over the next nine years, my little grandson experienced neglect ranging from an extremely unsanitary living environment to unsupervised play with older children, which resulted in him being sexually molested at age 5 by a 12-year-old girl who we surmise was a victim to sexual abuse as well.

His clothing was always dirty and smelled rancid – a sour mix of body odors, urine, greasy food, cigarette smoke, beer odor, dirt and who knows what else. I remember going to visit them a few weeks after we had helped them move. Vincent's crib was disassembled and in a heap in the yard. There were now six adults living in this tiny no-bedroom unit. Vincent, 1, was lying on a twin bed with no guardrail. At the foot of the bed was a female pit bull in heat and bleeding onto the bed sheets. I saw old, moldy, food in cartons and dirty clothing strewn everywhere. I asked my daughter if I could take Vincent home for a visit.

When I got him home, I bathed him, put clean clothing on him and called the Child Abuse Hotline for the first time. A caseworker came to my house a few days later and said that she visited my daughter and although the house was very untidy and dirty, it did not constitute a valid reason for removing the child. She also said it would have been better if I had left Vincent there so that the worker could discover Vincent in the surroundings. She might have had enough cause to open a case under those circumstances. I was astounded! I could never leave him there like that!

"Vincent started school and I discovered that he had missed 56 days of Kindergarten."

The System

Through the years, I have placed many hotline calls to the L.A. County Dept. of Children and Family Services (DCFS). I always believed that Children's Services would not let anything bad happen to Vincent. I slowly lost that long-held impression as I stood by and watched them downplay what was happening to Vincent.

At one point, when my daughter and grandson had been evicted for the fifth and sixth time and were living in someone else's car at the park, I placed another call and was told that homelessness was not a crime and grandparents had no rights. The hotline worker did not file a report.

"I always believed that children's services would not let anythig bad happen to Vincent. I slowly lost that long-held impression as I stood by and watched them downplay what was happening to Vincent."

Vincent started school and I discovered that he had missed 56 days of kindergarten. I spoke to the school counselor. She said that kindergarten was not a mandatory part of public school and that the school could not conduct an inquiry into his absences.

When Vincent was in second grade, I found out that he had missed 42 days and had to repeat the year because he was so behind in reading and writing. I placed a call to DCFS. The hotline worker advised me that the teacher would have to call and make the report. I talked to the teacher and she agreed to make a call. DCFS did not open a case. I had almost given up hope that the system would intervene and help my grandson. A major shift in the situation came from an unlikely source.

Valley College Welcomes Potential Freshman

BY SERENA DANIELS
STAR REPORTER

Every year Valley College invites local high schools onto campus so they can have a better idea of what to expect in the fall. This year college students are offering their words of wisdom to the incoming freshmen who are visiting campus today.

The majority of students say that when choosing classes, it's not as important to pick a major right away. Randy Quaid, a student at Valley, said it's better to explore your options before you commit to a specific major.

"It's important to take your time and find out what your interests are," said Quaid.

Silvia Perez, a first -year student, said to take all the general education courses first and not worry about the major right away. "If you change your mind about your major and you have all the G.E.'s out of the way, you don't have to waist too much time taking when you change your mind."

One example of this is what happened with Alberto Garibay. He started at Valley in the fall of 1997, and because he was taking classes that didn't help fulfill the general requirements, it took him about four years to transfer to Cal State Northridge.

"I was taking classes that I didn't need," said Garibay. "My advice would be to take only the classes that you need to transfer."

Finally, it's important to use the resources available on campus. Valley offers an array of programs designed to help students pass their classes. The Learning Resource Center has tutoring for numerous subjects. The Writing Center has students help other students with everything from grammar and punctuation, to writing personal essays and research papers.

Joel Trudgon, a coordinator in the office of school relations, said that students need to take advantage of the services on campus. "People just don't know about what their school has to offer. They don't know how to get that financial aid and some don't even know that there are counselors here to help them on their educational goals. If students look, they're bound to get the help they need to be successful."

SEX IN THE VALLEY: A Lesson In Communication

Dear Serena,

I recently went back with my girlfriend after she virtually threw me away as if I were a dirty diaper. Even though she's kind of mean to me, I still love and care for her. Last weekend I went to a concert. To my surprise, I saw her there, kissing some other guy. When she saw me, she pushed him away, then they walked off together. I haven't confronted her yet 'cause I just don't know what to say. I care about her and all but I don't know how to handle this. Why does she treat me this way?!

Love Sick in Lake View Terrace

Dear Love Sick,

Well, the hard truth is that you're probably going to have to cut her loose, sooner better than later. Although she might not realize it, she has grown accustomed to taking advantage of your good intentions toward her. Even if you confront her, she'll continue treating you this way until you put a stop to it. So, the best way to handle the situation would be to invite her somewhere neutral like a coffee shop and let her know that you care about her but that you cannot continue to be taken advantage of. Try to avoid sounding bitter, but make it clear that you don't want to be in the relationship. She may try to talk her way out of being dumped but just stand firm and remember everything she has put you through. Once the worst is over, move on. There will be someone else out there who appreciates what you have to offer.

Got problems with that special someone? Ask Serena! Go to BJ114 or e-mail us at STAReditorsLAVC@hotmail.com.

'Museum' *continued from page 1*

not just a history lesson but part of our past that took place by humanity's own hands. Once it became too unbearable for even me that I slipped out to look at the pictures that were plastered upon the walls. They depicted bodies piled over each other and human beings naked to the bones. One woman standing next to me said it best when nothing but her pale expression of heartache that showed on her face. I decided to continue with the tour and found myself entering a new room. I was given a passport and, along with others with a picture of a child, and only at the end of the tour would I come to realize his or her fate. Each of these passports was also detailed with an account of the child's life before, during, and after the war. This part of the Center wasn't plastered with photographs but used to let others understand what went on during the Holocaust. I remember stopping in front of a display of tables with people dressed as if they were at a café' in Germany. It became dark upon the display as each table separately lit up and you could hear the conversations. I got the shivers when one woman told her companion "There is nothing to worry about…" I thought of at that moment of Anne Frank, and maybe she too, didn't think something so awful could be inflicted on other human beings. All around me people didn't know how to react to what they were seeing and hearing for maybe what was probably the first time for some. Yom Ha'shoah is not just a day for Jews but for all human beings. It's a day that we should remember more than once but never forget what kind of "barbaric acts" can be done towards our fellow

See 'MUSEUM' on p.5

Valley Life

STAR PHOTO/SALVADOR AGUILAR

Serena Daniels, left, and Renee Barrera of the Valley Star wait anxiously as the awards are announced at the Journalism Association of Community Colleges's annual conference in Sacramento that ran from Apr. 4-6.

The Valley Star Shines at JACC

BY RENEE ROSE BARRERA
STAR REPORTER

Amidst the crowd of more than 560 students and advisers from 49 colleges, the Valley Star staff came away with five awards from the Journalism Association of Community Colleges (JACC) statewide conference.

The conference took place in Sacramento at the Doubletree hotel from April 4 through 6. Each semester the Star staff attends the JACC southern regional conference in Fullerton in the fall and the statewide conference in Sacramento. The staff participates in on-the-spot competitions and workshops there.

The five awards the Valley Star staff won are the following:

Oliver Cacananta – On-the-spot Feature story – Honorable Mention

Rogelio Garcia – On-the-spot Editorial cartoon - 4th place

Jorge Gallegos – On-the-spot Sports photo – Honorable Mention

Salvador Aguilar – Bring-in photo – Honorable Mention

Lauren Rudser – Bring-in photo – 4th place

Star Transfer Update

BY SERENA DANIELS
STAR REPORTER

The Valley Star will be providing students the most up-to-date information on choosing a major, writing that personal statement, and applying to university.

Coming up in April:

Wednesday, April 17. Monarch Square, 10:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

College and Major Fair; this features representatives from University of Redlands, Fashion Institute of Design and Merchandise, Mount St. Mary's College and at least five representatives from various UC's and CSU's. In addition, nearly every academic department will be present to give students a better idea in choosing their majors.

Tuesday, April 23. Monarch Square/Hall. 9 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

THE BRUINS ARE COMING! UCLA Day; representatives will be at Valley College all day to give information on application deadlines, financial aid, writing the personal statement and majors of interest.

Friday, April 26. UCLA. 8:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

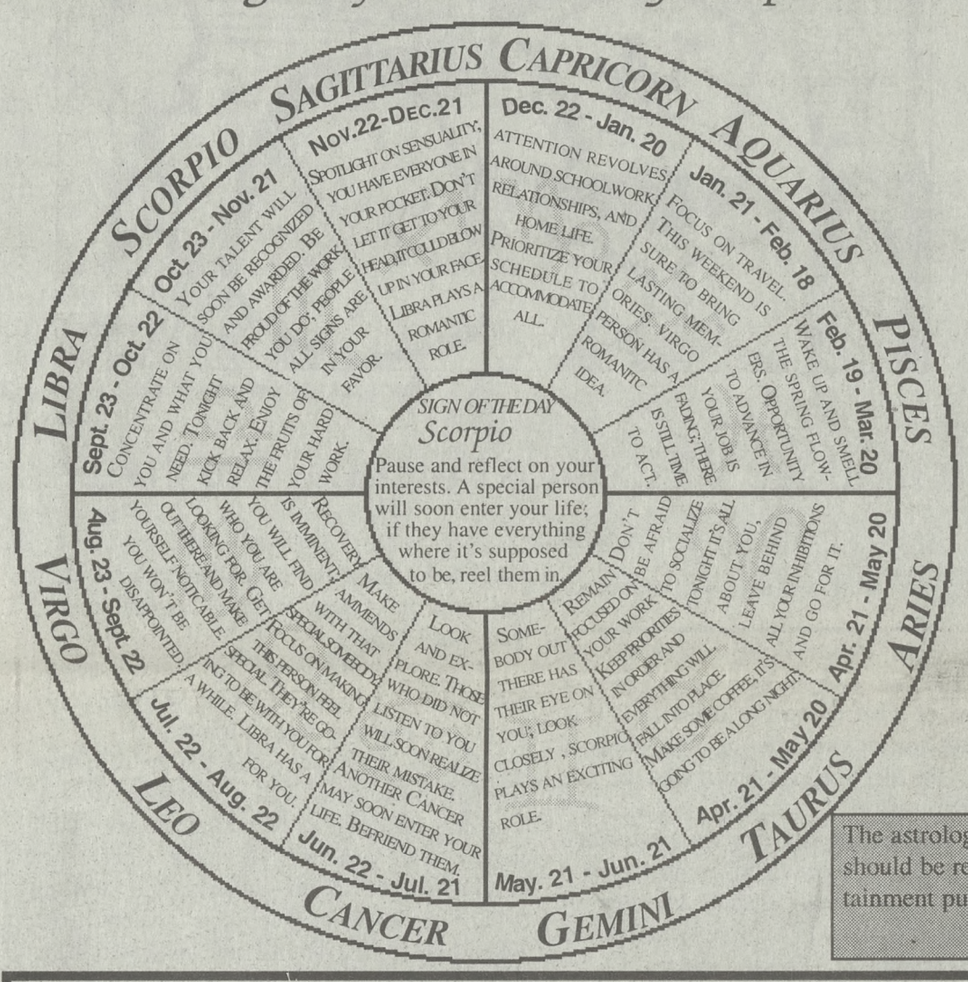
UCLA Third Annual STOMP Transfer Conference. The Student Transfer Outreach & Mentorship Program is inviting Valley College students to attend this day-long event. Subjects covered include: strategies for transfer, information on majors, student life/housing, financial aid, departmental fair and sign ups for mentoring from a current UCLA student. Bus rides to and from the campus are provided, along with continental breakfast and lunch.

Monday, April 29. Career/Transfer Center. 10 a.m. – 12 p.m. and 5 p.m.

Representatives from Cal State Northridge.

We will keep readers updated on transfer info and scholarship opportunities. If anyone wishes to submit scholarship information, please contact the Valley Star. (818)947-2547.

Your astrological forecast told by....Sepuca



The astrological forecast should be read for entertainment puposes only.

COURTESY OF UNIVERSAL PICTURES

This weekend the Rock prepares to "lay the smack down" on Changing Lanes as he goes for the top spot at the box office in the Scorpion King.Read The Valley Star's movie review on Friday at lavalleystar.com.

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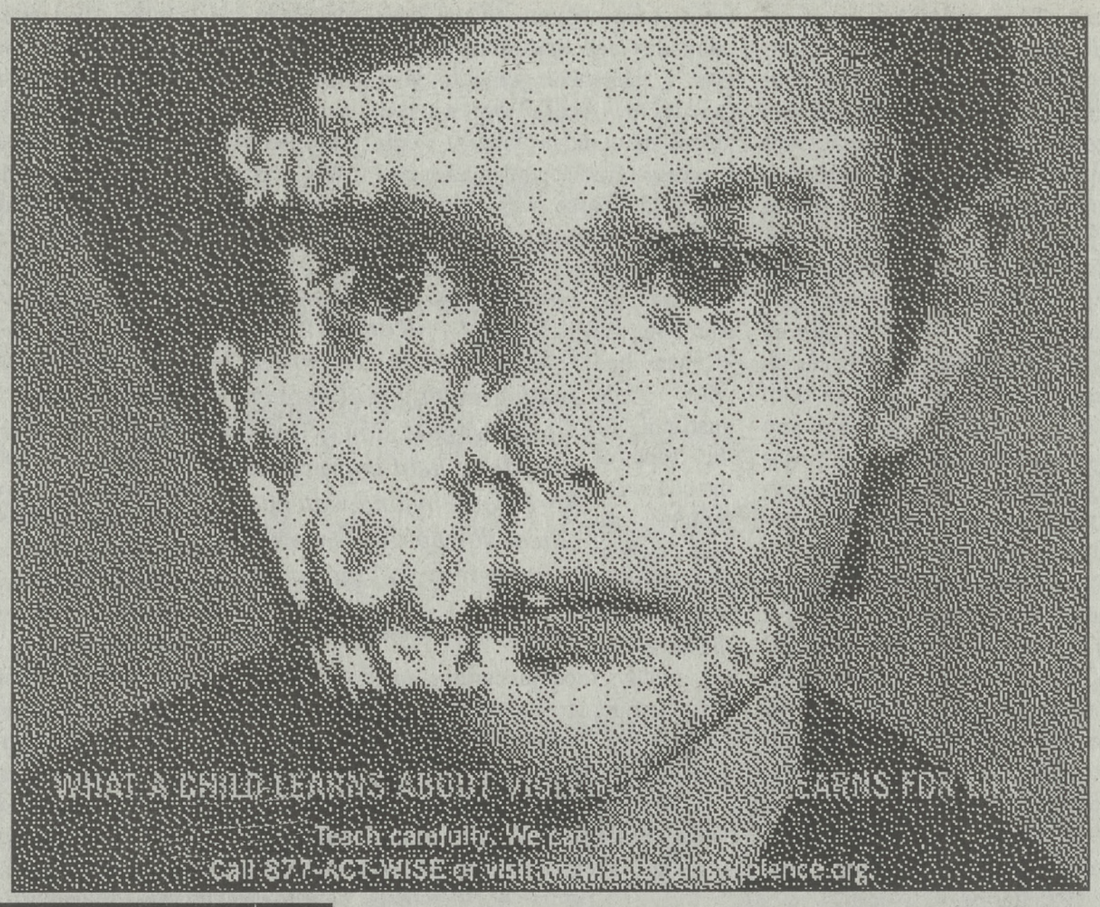
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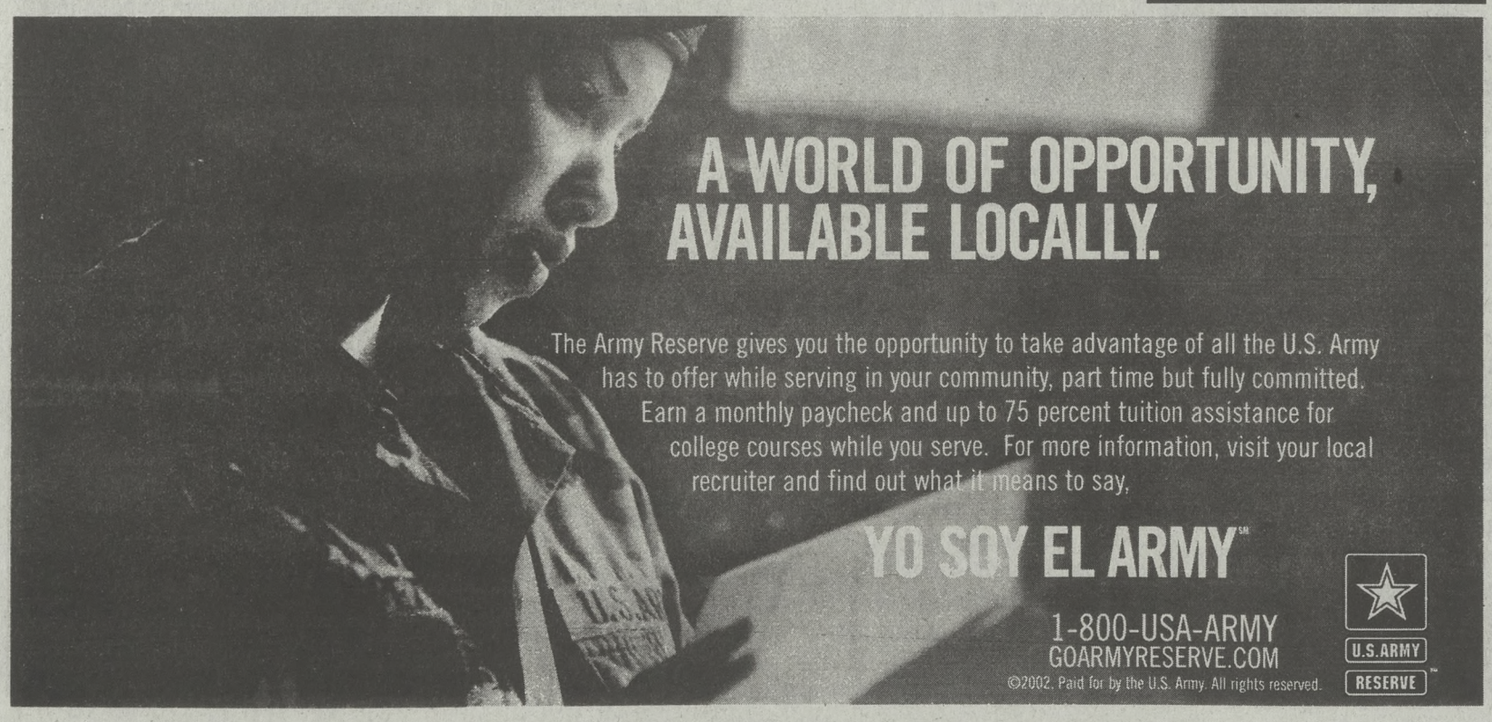
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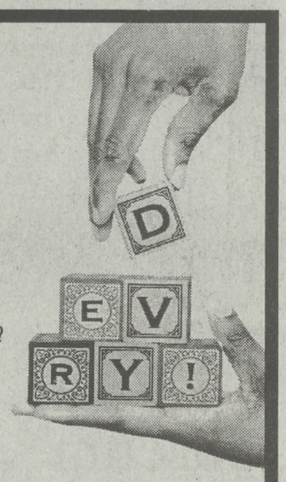
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'Holocaust' *continued from page 1*

ly would send her into stores where Jews were forbidden to buy food. Though there were drawbacks as well.

"My sister had black hair," said Landecker. "The Gestapo stopped us once and told me 'what are you doing walking with that Jew, don't you know you're not allowed?'" Landecker and her sister were sent off in different directions and her parents were very worried when their blonde daughter showed up so late.

Eventually, Landecker's parents were able to obtain a visa for her and her sister to be sent to Britain late in 1938, two of the 10,000. Life in England wasn't as idyllic as they would have assumed, though. "It wasn't easy to grow up without any parents," she said. "The other children would tell me that I was lucky: 'you can do what you want, you don't have to ask your parents,' but I would rather have had to ask permission."

Landecker was adopted by a family in Glasgow where she witnessed Hess' ill-fated jump into history, then she eventually moved to London to study nursing when she became old enough. She was separated from her parents from 1938 to 1947, the only communication being received from them were a few Red Cross messages of 25 words, and then only after a couple of years.

She also spoke of how her father was sent to the Buchenwald concentration camp, but was eventually able to make his way out to Shanghai, China, where a large population of Jewish refugees were coagulating, and eventually was reunited with him in Seattle in 1947—one of the few lucky ones who was able to see their parent again.

Landecker has family in Tel Aviv and Jerusalem, and her father is buried in Israel. "I never questioned my faith," she said.

The attendees of the event also had several things to say.

"These events are important," said student Brian Couey. "Someday there will be no one left that was actually involved in the Holocaust, and someday there will be no one left who actually remembers anyone that was involved, and so on."

"I was pleased to see so many in attendance and the faculty supporting the event by bringing their classes," Wieder said after the program. "I thought it was very good that the students stayed until after the film was over and asked questions. It made it all very positive."

Regarding current events in the Middle East, program director Rick Lupert remarked: "Sharon has declared war on terrorists, not on Palestinians. It's disappointing that the Palestinian Authority hasn't done anything about it.

See complete story online.

'AB540' *continued from page 1*

On the other hand, the lack of monitoring also leaves the system subject to abuses. A student may sign a certificate without having applied for legalization. Although that constitutes fraud, no would know if no one is looking.

Valley is in the process of creating and gathering promotional materials for the program. An informational website is scheduled to launch on March 22.

'Museum' *continued from page 4*

human beings when were not looking, all in the absence of tolerance. Hier who spoke to a group of us gathered that Tuesday morning expressed his view on the Holocaust and recent events concerning Israel.

"If the legacy of the Holocaust has taught us one thing," he said

"It was the fact that the world allowed the Jews to be forgotten, isolated, and to be treated differently -that there were different rules, one for the world and another for the Jews."

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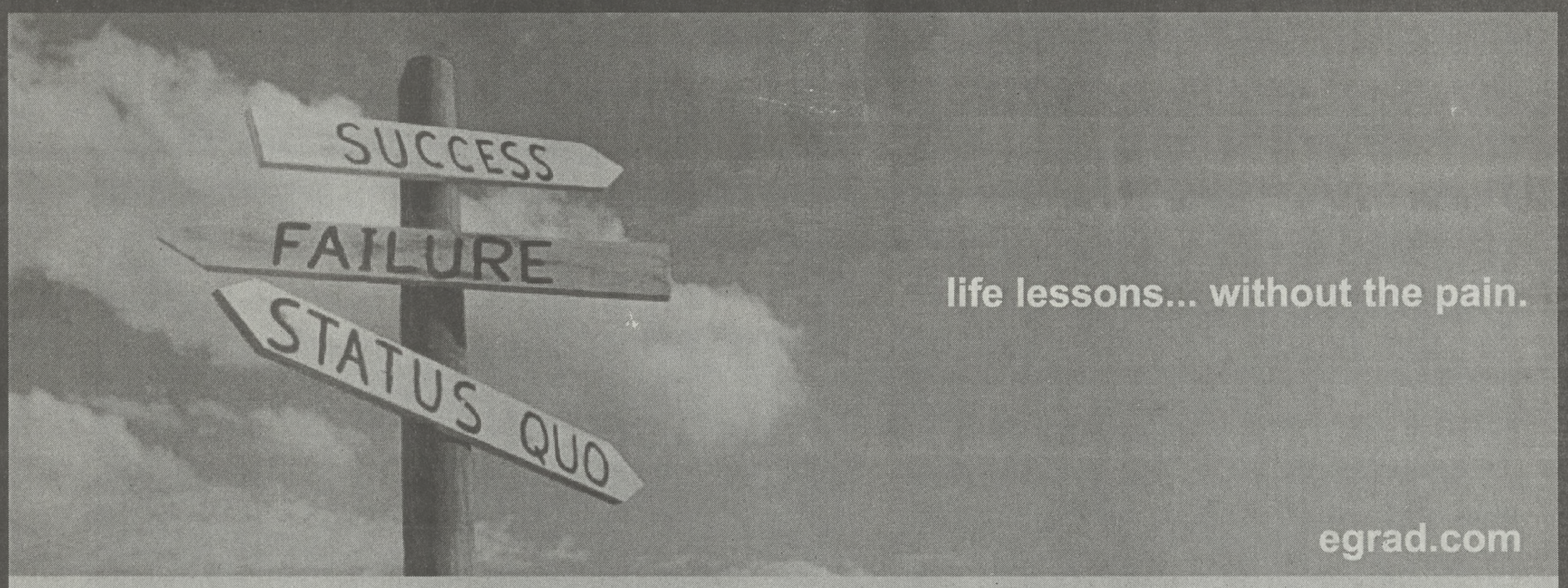

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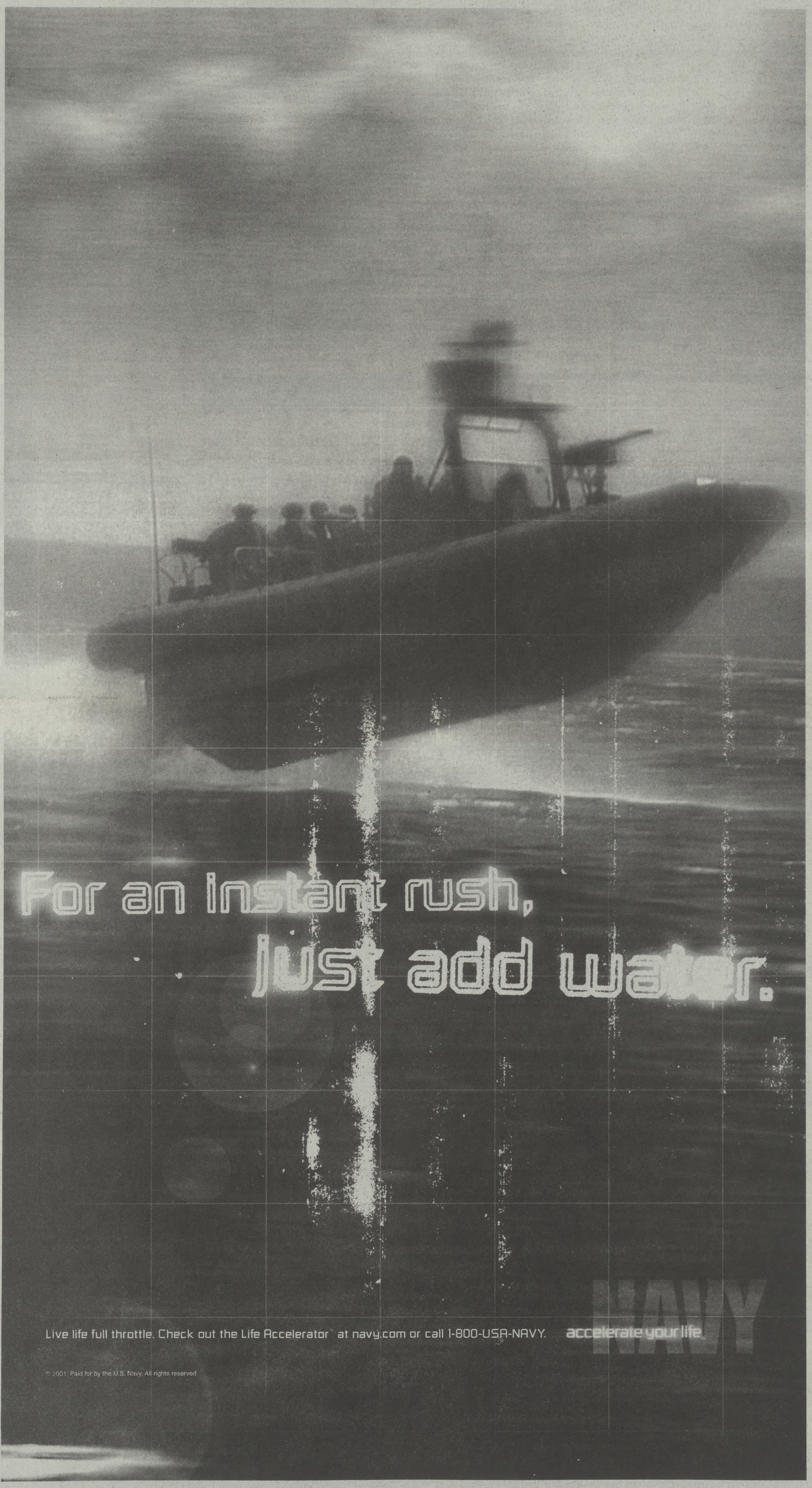
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Both full-time and part-time students are eligible for the Dean's Honor List. Full-time students are enrolled in 12 or more units and must have completed at least 12 graded units with a grade point average (GPA) of 3.5 or above in the semester they are considered for inclusion on the Dean's List. Part-time students are enrolled in 6 to 11 units in the qualifying semester. Part-time students must have completed 12 or more cumulative graded units at the college where they are being considered for inclusion on the Dean's List, and they must have at least a 3.5 GPA in the qualifying semester. In calculating the GPA of part-time students, the only grades used will be from courses completed at Los Angeles Valley College.

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ARSEN KAR

Campus Trying to Build Spirit with Spring Games

BY RICARDO MIRANDA AND PEDRO OLIVERA
STAR REPORTER

With April already in full bloom, Valley's ASU events bloom into action with its Spring Games. The event will be held today from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Monarch Square. The games are being touted as a new Monarch tradition because the Associated Student Union is attempting to hold the event annually.

The main focus of the event is to give students at Valley the opportunity to learn about the different clubs available here on campus. Most clubs have representatives that will provide information about their club.

Commissioner of Athletics Danielle Dejean helped organize the event.

Dejean is taking over for the incumbent Jessica Salazar, who won the election last year but has now decided to step down.

" I ran for the position last year, but I lost to Jessica," said Dejean. " But when I heard she was stepping down, I went for it right away."

Dejean has been a member of Valley College's cheerleading squad for the past two years. Although there is no position of squad captain, it was understood that she is in charge.

"I am kind of like the captain of the girls," she said. " I help out the coach and get us organized before games."

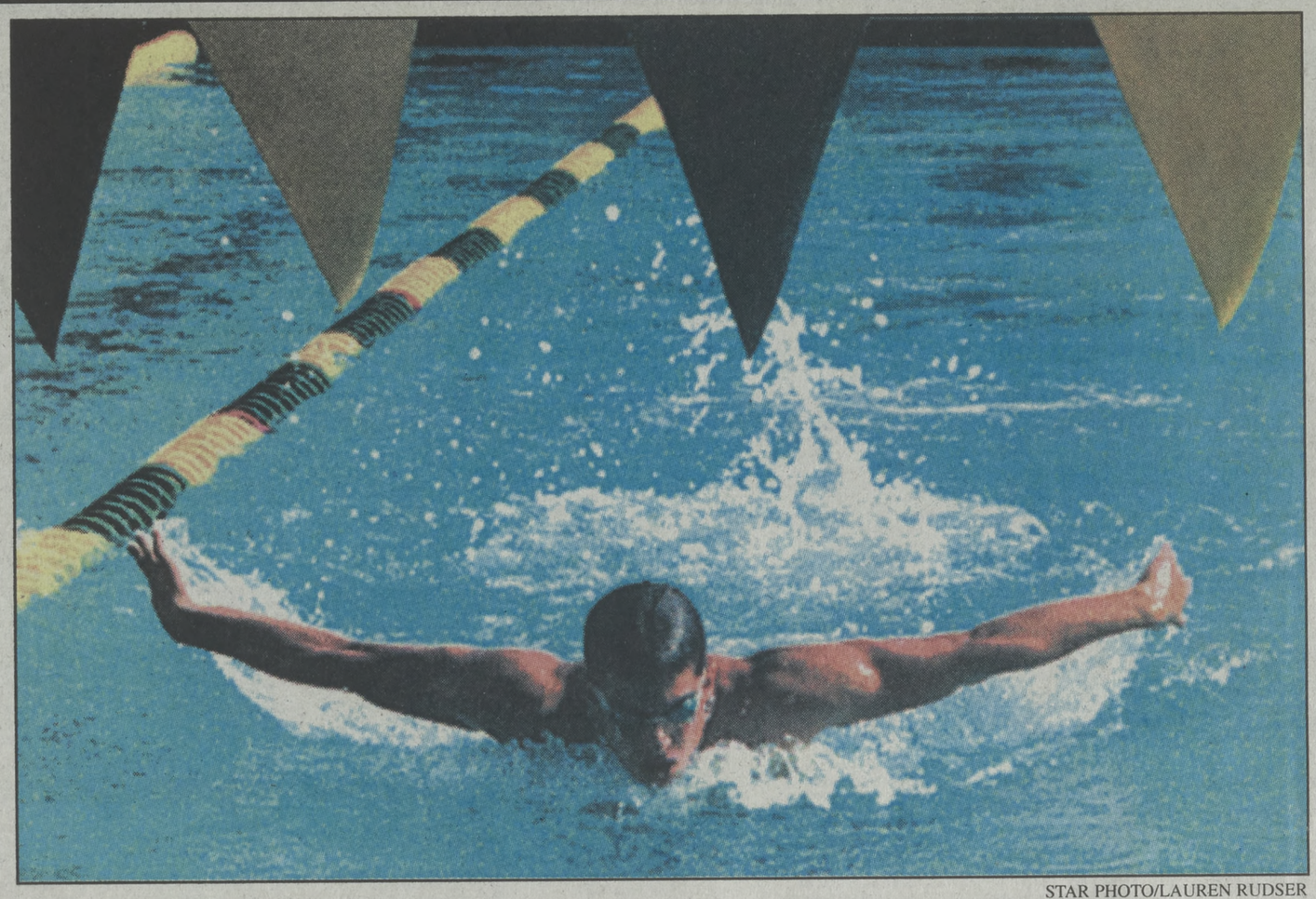
She is a very spirited young woman

"I noticed that there is no more school spirit around here," she said. " As commissioner of athletics, I want to make things fun and exciting for the students. The best way to go about that is by interacting with the rest of the officials. If we all work together, we can put together better events on campus.

"One event I want to help improve is Homecoming. I want to put a dance together after the game. I also want to put a marching band together."

The Spring Games consist of flag football, volleyball, and a potato sack race, as well as other events to be added. Members of each club will have the opportunity to challenge participating professors or a rival club.

Cash prizes will be awarded to the winners of each event. The highest prize awarded will be a $50.00 cash prize. The ASU is providing all of the prizes.



STAR PHOTO/LAUREN RUDSER

Patrick O'Neal makes one of swimming's most difficult events look effortless during the men's 200 meter butterfly at Valley's last home meet against Santa Monica College.

Athlete of the Week

Nicole Angelique LaBrunda

BY SKYLAR LENOX
STAR REPORTER

Nicole Angelique LaBrunda, 20, is a dedicated member of the Valley College Monarchs' softball team. She started her softball career at the age of 5 playing t-ball and hasn't stopped playing. This humble athlete with the multi-colored braids is most at home as a catcher but is also stepping onto the pitchers mound.

Skylar Lenox: How long have you been going to Valley?
Nicole Angelique La Brunda: I started coming here in high school for the Valley program, and my first year after high school, which was 2000. Then I went to Pierce for a semester, but now I'm back.

S.L.: Why did you come back to Valley?
N.A.L.: To play on the softball team.

S.L.: Do you enjoy playing on the softball team?
N.A.L.: Yes, I love it a lot.

S.L.: Were you on the softball team in high school?
N.A.L.: Yes.

S.L.: How long have you been playing softball?
N.A.L. I probably started when I was about 12. I played baseball before that. I was on the t-ball team since I was about 5.

S.L.: What made you start?
N.A.L.: My dad was the coach.

S.L.: Do you think that parent support is important?
N.A.L.: It's very important. I know a lot of times when I look over, like if I see my dad there, it gives me a lot more confidence. If he says anything, just like, to smile, it helps me.

S.L.: Where do you want to go [after Valley]?
N.A.L. Where do I want to go? I don't know, it would be nice to go somewhere, really good, Long Beach or somewhere like that.

S.L.: Do you strive to be on the Olympic softball team?
N.A.L.: Yeah, I've always wanted to be. I know it's going to take a lot more work. I have to reach a high level before then before that.

S.L.: It sounds like you push yourself a lot. You said your dad was your motivation. What other motivations do you have?
N.A.L.: Well, I have a son who is 7 months old and I want to do it for him too. Softball keeps me in school and school helps keep me in softball. They kind of motivate each other.

S.L.: What is the best part of softball to you?
N.A.L.: I don't know. I guess just feeling well after a game.

S.L.: What happens when you don't have a good game?
N.A.L.: Sometimes I get really mad and down on myself and I just keep telling myself I could've done this or I could have done that. Sometimes I just shrug it off; I just say, "Oh well."

S.L.: Women's sports have been getting more and more attention, especially soccer and basketball, but softball isn't getting a lot of notice. How do you feel about that?
N.A.L.: I'm pretty disappointed because there was a professional fast-pitch [softball] team a few years ago but it was shut down. It made me really disappointed because you see WNBA and other teams like that. But I know that it's pretty big in Europe. I've been thinking about that.

S.L. If you could say anything out there to people who are scared to try out for softball what would you tell them?
N.A.M.: That's hard because I don't feel that I'm someone that is like, "Hey, you need listen to me." But just go for it, you have nothing to lose.

STAR PHOTO/SALVADOR AGUILAR

Nicole Angelique LaBrunda has been named Athlete of the Week. LaBrunda is the catcher for the Monarchs' softball team.

Talkin' Sports

PEDRO OLIVERA
SPORTS EDITOR

The 2002 baseball season is nearly three weeks old, and with the exception of the Oakland A's and the Minnesota Twins, every small-market team is out of playoff contention.

If you are a fan of Montreal, Florida, San Diego, Detroit, Kansas City and Tampa Bay, your season is already over. Thanks for playing, better luck next year.

And it's not just the small-market teams. There are plenty of big-budget busts that have no chance. Teams like the Texas Rangers, which invested an astronomical amount of money, $252 million, on one player, Alex Rodriguez. He will lead the Rangers to another last-place finish.

There are plenty of teams that are hanging in the balance. Teams like the Dodgers, Mets, Red Sox, Giants and Cardinals all spent a ridiculous amount of money on their skyrocketing payrolls. Although they will all contend for spots in this year's playoffs, you would have to expect a lot more production from the high-priced salaries.

Baseball is the only major sport without some kind of salary restriction. This enables the teams that bring in the largest revenues, like the Yankees, to spend as much as they want on whomever they want.

The free spending is fine if you are a Yankees' fan. You always know that as long as they are making money, they will spend whatever it takes to stay competitive.

I'm not picking on the Yankees. I don't like them, but I think they are a first-class organization. While it's true that they buy a lot of their players through the free-agency market, the core of their championship teams are all home grown. Derek Jeter, Bernie Williams, Mariano Rivera and many others came up through the minor-league system.

What about the little guy

What about the teams that don't bring in the money? What about the teams that can't spend a lot on salaries?

Not because they're cheap, but because they can't afford to.

Teams like Montreal, who at the beginning of the season was the only team in the major leagues that didn't have a television contract. Couple that with their pitiful attendance and there is no way they can afford to stay in business.

With the threat of contraction and a labor dispute looming over the head of baseball, the events that occur during the season can very easily make or break the game.

But for the fans that root for the Tigers, the Marlins and the Expos, which have no chance in this year's playoffs, their spirits might already be broken.